

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and amend Claims 2, 5, and 7-11 as follows. All pending claims have been reproduced below.

Claim 1 (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An external storage device ~~according to claim 1,~~
further which is connected to an image pickup apparatus provided with a first image
storage medium capable of storing plural taken images and image display means, and
adapted for backup of image information stored in said first image storage medium, the
device comprising:

a second image storage medium capable of storing plural image
information;

a connection detecting unit for detecting the connection with said image
pickup apparatus;

a reception unit for accepting a backup instruction for the taken image by a
user;

a transfer unit for writing predetermined taken image information read from
said first image storage medium into said second image storage medium and erasing the
predetermined taken image information from said first image storage medium according to
a detection output of said connection detecting unit and an output of said reception unit;

a conversion unit for converting ~~said~~ the predetermined taken image
information, written into said second image storage medium, into an image matching a
display ability of said image display means; and

a second transfer unit for writing image information converted by said conversion unit in said first image storage medium.

Claims 3 and 4 (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An external storage device according to claim 1, wherein said image pickup apparatus includes means for operating a file in said second image storage medium, and said external storage device executes an operation on the image file recorded in said second storage medium according to said file operation.

Claim 6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A control method ~~according to claim 6;~~
further for an external storage device connected to an image pickup apparatus provided with a first image storage medium capable of storing plural taken images and image display means capable of displaying at least the taken image and adapted for backup of the image information, stored in the first image storage medium, in a second image storage medium, the method comprising:

a connection detecting step of detecting the connection with the image pickup apparatus;

an operation step of accepting an operation of a user;

a first transfer step of writing predetermined taken image information read from the first image storage medium into the second image storage medium and erasing the predetermined taken image information from the first image storage medium according to the detection of connection in said connection detecting step and the acceptance of an operation in said operation step;

a conversion step of converting ~~said the~~ predetermined taken image information, written into ~~said the~~ second image storage medium, into an image matching a display ability of ~~said the~~ image display means; and

a second transfer step of writing image information converted by said conversion step in ~~said the~~ first image storage medium.

8. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus provided with an image storage medium capable of storing ~~plural taken image~~ a plurality of taken images and an image display unit capable of displaying at least ~~said taken image~~ one of the plurality of taken images, comprising:

a communication unit capable of wireless or wired communication with an external storage device for backup of ~~the~~ image information stored in said image storage medium;

a transfer process unit for transferring a predetermined taken image from said image storage medium to ~~said the~~ external storage device and erasing ~~said the~~ predetermined taken image from said image storage medium; and

a control unit for receiving the image, transferred to ~~said the~~ external storage device and converted according to a display ability of said image display unit, through said communication unit and storing ~~said the~~ image in said image storage medium.

9. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said ~~display means~~ image display unit displays an operation image for operating an image file stored in ~~said the~~ external storage device in a state capable of communication with ~~said the~~ external storage device.

10. (Currently Amended) A control method for an image pickup apparatus provided with an image storage medium capable of storing ~~plural taken image~~ a plurality of taken images and an image display unit capable of displaying at least ~~said taken image~~ one of the plurality of taken images, comprising the steps of:

executing one of wireless ~~or~~ and wired communication with an external storage device for backup of the ~~image information~~ plurality of taken images stored in ~~said~~ the image storage medium;

transferring a predetermined taken image from ~~said~~ the image storage medium to ~~said~~ the external storage device and erasing ~~said~~ the predetermined taken image from ~~said~~ the image storage medium; and

receiving the image, transferred to ~~said~~ the external storage device and converted according to a display ability of ~~said~~ the image display unit, through ~~said~~ a communication unit and storing ~~said~~ the image in ~~said~~ the image storage medium.

11. (Currently Amended) A control method according to claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the display means displays an operation image for operating an image file stored in ~~said~~ the external storage device in a state capable of communication with ~~said~~ the external storage device.